Dan Brand and Tipi

THE NAMELESS HATE AND TERROR THAT BEGAN ON THE BLOOD-STAINED DECKS OF A PIRATE SHIP TRAILED JEAN LESOIR INTO THE FRONTIER WILDERNESS. FATE —IN THE FORM OF A REVENGE-MAD CUTTHROAT— DOGGED HIS FOOTSTEPS AND BROUGHT DEATH TO HIS GREAT DESIRE FOR A NEW LIFE WITH HIS BEAUTIFUL WIFE, MARGUERITE. DAN BRAND AND TIPI UNRAVEL THE DREAD MYSTERY OF A HORRIBLE CRIME —

"PIRATE FURY!"

Frazetta

ONE YEAR LATER — OTHER TRAVELERS PASS THE SAME VALLEY...
SEE, DAN, HOW THE DOOR HANGS AJAR, AND ITS LOCKS ARE BROKEN. THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG INSIDE THAT SETTLER'S CABIN.
LET'S GO IN — CAREFUL, NOW!

GOOD HEAVENS! MURDERED!

THERE'S AN EARRING IN THE DEAD MAN'S HAND — IT'S AS THOUGH HE TORE IT FROM THE EAR OF SOMEONE HE WAS FIGHTING WITH JUST BEFORE HE WAS STABBED! WHAT A STRANGE DESIGN — WHY, THAT'S A PIRATE'S SIGN!

DRAWERS RANSACKED, FIREPLACE TAKEN APART — THE WHOLE PLACE IS TURNED UPSIDE DOWN!
THEY EVEN DUG HOLES IN THE FLOOR — AS THOUGH THEY WERE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING — WHICH THEY FAILED TO FIND!

WAH-- WHAAA WAHHHH.. WAH...!

IT'S COMING FROM THAT WELL!

A BABY!

HIS PARENTS MUST HAVE KNOWN WHAT WAS COMING AND HID THEIR BABY IN THIS WELL! STILL— WHO? WHAT? —IT'S A REAL MYSTERY!
BUT BEFORE WE TRY TO SOLVE IT, WE'D BETTER SEE THAT THE CHILD IS TAKEN CARE OF. THERE'S ANOTHER SETTLER'S CABIN NOT FAR FROM HERE...

LATER—IN THE SETTLER CABIN OF JEREMIAH DEAKIN AND HIS WIFE...
LAN' SAKES ALIVE—WHY, WE'LL BE RIGHT GLAD TO CARE FOR THE CHILD! AND THE FIRST THING I'M GOING TO DO IS TO GIVE HIM A BATH AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES! COME TO ME, YOU POOR LITTLE TYKE!
PARENTS MURDERED? NOW, HOW D'YE FIGGER IT, DAN?

I'M GOING TO NEED A GREAT DEAL MORE INFORMATION BEFORE I CAN FIGURE THIS ONE OUT, I'M THINKING, MR. DEAKIN...
THERE'S SOMEONE KNOCKIN' AT THE DOOR—MIGHTY LOUD TOO! NOW WHO KIN THAT BE A-KNOCKIN' SO IMPORTANT-LIKE?
KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!

MY NAME, SHE IS PIERRE BATEAU. ME AN' MY FREN'S, WE LOOK FOR ZE PLACE FOR TO SLEEP ZE NIGHT
I RECKON YE KIN COME RIGHT IN AND MAKE YER-SELVES T'HOME, GENTS. WE AIN'T GOT TOO MUCH COMFORT HERE. BUT STRANGERS IS ALWAYS WELCOME! PASSIN' THROUGH ON BUSINESS?

PERHAPS! EET WOULD BE MUCH BETTER EEF YOU DID NOT ASK ZE QUESTIONS, SIR! ME AN' MY FREN'S, WE DO NOT LIKE QUESTIONS! UNDERSTAND?
DAN, HIS RIGHT EAR— IT'S BANDAGED!

WHY LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT, EENJUN? ZE FACE OF PIERRE BATEAU DOES NOT PLEASE YOU, PERHAPS?

NO, MONSIEUR BATEAU, YOUR FACE DOES NOT PLEASE ME! A LITTLE HEAVY ON ONE SIDE— DUE TO THE LACK OF AN EARRING, SHALL WE SAY? LET ME OFFER YOU ANOTHER EARRING TO BALANCE —AND TO MATCH!
SACRE! NOM DU CHIEN!
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DAN! JEREMIAH! THAT BABY YOU FOUND IN THE LESOIR CABIN – WHY, IT'S GOT WRITING ALL OVER ITS BACK – IN INDELIBLE INK – AND IT'S IN FRENCH AND – OH – OH OH – WHO ARE THESE MEN?
WE ARE ONLY PIRATES, MADAME – LOOKING FOR SOMETHEENG! AND – THANKS TO YOU – WE 'AVE FOUND ZAT FOR WHICH WE SEEK! JACQUE! HENRI! TIE ZEM UP, EVERY ONE!

VER-EEE GOOD! TAKE ZE BABEE AN' LET US GO!
A GALLOWS WILL BE YOUR END, BATEAU – IF I DON'T GET YOU FIRST, SOMEHOW!

GET ME, EENJUN? IN ZE NEXT LIFE! FOR THEES LIFE, SHE EES ALL OVER FOR YOU! QUICKLY, HENRI AN' JACQUES – SET FIRE TO ZE CABIN!

HAW-HAW-HAW-
HEE-HEE-HEE
HOO-HA HA-HA!

BUT—IN THE SEARING HEAT OF THE CABIN...
THE BEASTS! THE BEASTS! WE'LL DIE! THERE'S NO WAY OUT!
EASY, MARTHA – COURAGE, LASS!
IF ONLY I CAN SQUIRM OVER TO THAT BURNING EMBER!..

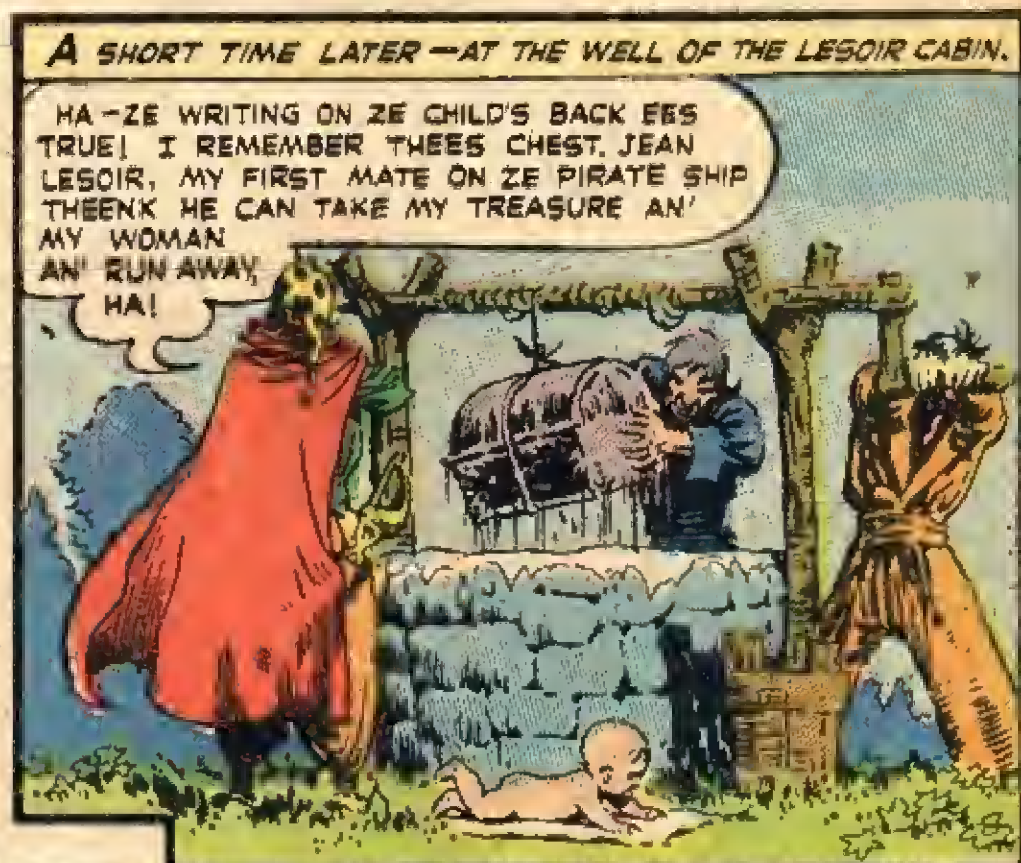
DID IT! HOLD ON, FOLKS! WE'LL GET OUT YET!

THROUGH THAT HOLE IN THE FLAMES – QUICKLY NOW, RUN!
MADE IT! NOW TO GET THOSE SCOUNDRELS – BUT WHERE? AND HOW?

DAN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THERE'S NOBODY LEFT IN THERE!
THERE'S SOMETHING IN THERE I'VE GOT TO HAVE, TIPI!

AND I GOT THEM... A MIRROR AND THE BABY'S CLOTHES!

I THOUGHT SO! SOME OF THAT INDELIBLE INK CAME OFF ON THE BABY'S DAMP SHIRT! I CAN READ FRENCH — AND WITH THIS MIRROR — I CAN MAKE OUT ONLY A FEW WORDS. THEY SAY: "...BOTH MY TREASURES... IN THE WELL..."

TREASURES! THE WELL! THAT MUST BE...
...THE SAME WELL WE TOOK THE BABY OUT OF! LET'S GO, TIPI!

A SHORT TIME LATER — AT THE WELL OF THE LESOIR CABIN.
HA-ZE WRITING ON ZE CHILD'S BACK EES TRUE! I REMEMBER THEES CHEST. JEAN LESOIR, MY FIRST MATE ON ZE PIRATE SHIP THEENK HE CAN TAKE MY TREASURE AN' MY WOMAN AN' RUN AWAY, HA!

PIERRE BATEAU EES REVENGED! I KEEL ZAT TRAITOR JEAN AND ZAT FICKLE WOMAN, MARGUERITE! I FOLLOW TO ZE END OF ZE EARTH — BOT ZE TREASURE, SHE EEZ MINE! HA-HA-HOO-HOO-HOO-HEE-HEE-HAW...

AND NOW — THEES BRAT EEZ OF NO USE TO ME ANYMORE, THEES OFFSPRING OF ZE MAN AN' WOMAN I HATE! I KEEL HIM, TOO!

NO, YOU'LL NOT, BATEAU!
SACRE! ZE EENJUN HE EES NOT DEAD!

AND NOW, BATEAU!
EN GARDE, EENJUN MAN— I SLIT YOUR THROAT FROM EAR TO EAR!

TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME, BATEAU! I LEARNED MY SWORDSMANSHIP IN FRANCE, TOO! INTO THE WELL WITH THIS ONE, TIPI— BUT YOU STAND ASIDE— THIS IS BETWEEN BATEAU AND ME!

DIE, THEN!
I HAVE OTHER PLANS, PIRATE, SCUM!

FOOL! NO ONE HAS YET BEATEN PIERRE BATEAU, PRINCE OF PIRATES!
THEN IT'S TIME THAT RECORD CAME TO A QUICK END!

HAVING TROUBLE, BATEAU?
SACRE BLEU! NEVAIRE HAVE I BEEN SO HUMILIATE!

IT SAYS IN FRENCH: "WITH MY TELESCOPE I SEE MY ENEMY COME. ONE OF US WILL DIE. IN CASE DEATH BE MY LOT, I PLACE BOTH MY TREASURES — MY BABY AND MY CHEST OF GOLD BULLION — INTO THE WELL. YOU WHO READ THIS, PLEASE DEAL RIGHTLY WITH MY SON — IF HE LIVES THROUGH THIS! YOURS, JEAN LESOIR, EX-PIRATE."